

C H A P. IV.

Joseph's Journey into Egypt, and his Circumstances there, &c.

WE left old Jacob in great distress, on account of the supposed death of his son. With an heart overcharged with grief, and eyes flowing with tears, he spent many a painful day and sleepless night.

Joseph the meanwhile was conducted as a common slave to the chief city of Egypt. Here, it is true, he had an opportunity of seeing magnificence, which till now he was quite unacquainted with. But such sights must be better calculated to increase, than alleviate his misery. We may picture to ourselves the situation of the young man, without friend or protector, exposed in the common market place to the insults of the surrounding-

rounding croud, and offered to sale by a master, whose cruelty could only be exceeded by that of his brothers, who betrayed him into his hands.

The beauty of his person, and the gracefulness of his deportment, took the attention of one of King Pharaoh's Captains, whose name was Potiphar. This man wanting a servant, immediately purchased the *Hebrew Captive*, for by that term Joseph was now called. Thus our hero entered upon his state of servitude, which, if viewed in a proper light, is certainly one of the most illustrious periods of his life. His assiduity and abilities not only gained him the affection, but the confidence of his master; and to use the words of the sacred historian, "The Lord was with him, and made whatever he did to prosper."

Indeed, whatever some wicked men may say, they are the most likely to be good servants, who fear